<u>IN THE CLAIMS:</u>

The status and content of each claim follows.

1.   (cancelled)

2.   (currently amended)   <u>A method of improving traffic management in a computing</u>
<u>network, comprising steps of:</u>
    <u>detecting a changed environmental condition;</u>
    <u>generating a notification of the detected condition;</u>
    <u>analyzing the generated notification by consulting one or more criteria;</u>
    <u>determining at a currently-executing application, based on the analysis, whether the</u>
<u>currently-executing application should modify a behavior of the currently-executing application;</u>
<u>and</u>
    ~~The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of~~ modifying, by the
currently-executing application, the behavior of the currently-executing application.

3.   (original)   The method according to claim 2, wherein the modification
comprises reducing a size of one or more data objects generated by the currently-executing
application.

4.   (original)   The method according to claim 2, wherein the modification comprises reducing data retrieval by the currently-executing application.

5.   (original)   The method according to claim 2, wherein the modification comprises dropping one or more connections with the currently-executing application.

6.   (original)   The method according to claim 2, wherein the modification comprises increasing a size of one or more data objects generated by the currently-executing application.

7.   (original)   The method according to claim 2, wherein the modification comprises increasing data retrieval by the currently-executing application.

8.   (original)   The method according to claim 2, wherein the modification comprises changing thread assignments of the currently-executing application.

9.   (original)   The method according to claim 2, wherein the modification comprises changing the currently-executing application's use of one or more other applications.

10.   (currently amended)   A method of improving traffic management in a computing network, comprising steps of:

detecting a changed environmental condition;

generating a notification of the detected condition;

analyzing the generated notification by consulting one or more criteria; and

determining at a currently-executing application, based on the analysis, whether the currently-executing application should modify a behavior of the currently-executing application;

~~The method according to claim 1,~~ wherein the changed environmental condition pertains to system-related conditions.

11.   (currently amended)   A method of improving traffic management in a computing network, comprising steps of:

 detecting a changed environmental condition;

generating a notification of the detected condition;

analyzing the generated notification by consulting one or more criteria; and

determining at a currently-executing application, based on the analysis, whether the currently-executing application should modify a behavior of the currently-executing application;

~~The method according to claim 1,~~ wherein the changed environmental condition pertains to network-related conditions.

12.   (currently amended)   A method of improving traffic management in a computing network, comprising steps of:

 detecting a changed environmental condition;

generating a notification of the detected condition;

analyzing the generated notification by consulting one or more criteria; and

determining at a currently-executing application, based on the analysis, whether the

currently-executing application should modify a behavior of the currently-executing application;

~~The method according to claim 1,~~ wherein the changed environmental condition pertains

to client-related conditions in one or more clients of the currently-executing application.

13.   (currently amended)   A method of improving traffic management in a computing

network, comprising steps of:

 detecting a changed environmental condition;

generating a notification of the detected condition;

analyzing the generated notification by consulting one or more criteria; and

determining at a currently-executing application, based on the analysis, whether the

currently-executing application should modify a behavior of the currently-executing application;

~~The method according to claim 1,~~ wherein the changed environmental condition occurred

internally to a system in which the currently-executing application is executing.

14.   (original)   The method according to claim 13, wherein the generated

notification pertains to a condition of a local network protocol stack.

15.   (original)   The method according to claim 13, wherein the generated

notification pertains to a condition of the system in which the currently-executing application is

executing.

16.   (original)   The method according to claim 13, wherein the analyzing step is performed by a policy manager component of the system in which the currently-executing application is executing.

17.   (currently amended)   <u>A method of improving traffic management in a computing network, comprising steps of:</u>

   <u>detecting a changed environmental condition;</u>

   <u>generating a notification of the detected condition;</u>

   <u>analyzing the generated notification by consulting one or more criteria; and</u>

   <u>determining at a currently-executing application, based on the analysis, whether the currently-executing application should modify a behavior of the currently-executing application;</u>

   ~~The method according to claim 1,~~ wherein the changed environmental condition occurred externally to a system in which the currently-executing application is executing.

18.   (original)   The method according to claim 17, wherein the generated notification pertains to a condition of a client of the currently-executing application.

19.   (original)   The method according to claim 17, wherein the generated notification pertains to a condition of a remote network platform.

20.   (original)   The method according to claim 17, wherein the generated notification pertains to a condition of a remote server with which the currently-executing application is communicating.

21.   (original)   The method according to claim 20, wherein the modification comprises making adjustments pertaining to the remote server.

22-24. (cancelled)